

RAJYA SABHA

*SYNOPSIS OF DEBATE

(Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

Friday, December 16, 2016/ Agrahayana 25, 1938 (Saka)

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon'ble Members, I refer with profound sorrow to the passing away of **Shri V. Ramanathan**, a former Member of this House, on the 10th of November, 2016, at the age of 83 years.

Born in March, 1933, at Kozhiyur in Tamil Nadu, Shri Ramanathan was educated at the Annamalai University and the Law College, University of Madras.

An advocate by profession, Shri Ramanathan served as a Pleader for the Government of Tamil Nadu. He also served as a member on the Senate of the Annamalai University and the Consultative Council of the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board.

Shri Ramanathan represented the State of Tamil Nadu in this House from April, 1984 to April, 1990.

In the passing away of Shri V. Ramanathan, the country has lost an able parliamentarian.

*This Synopsis is not an authoritative record of the proceedings of the Rajya Sabha.

We deeply mourn the passing away of Shri V. Ramanathan.

(One Minute's silence was observed as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed.)

VALEDICTORY REMARKS

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, the 241st Session of the Rajya Sabha, that commenced on 16th November, comes to a close today. The Secretary-General will make available to the hon. Members the relevant statistical data. I had fervently hoped that I would not have to repeat what I said at the conclusion of 221st Session in December, 2013. My hope stands belied.

Regular and continuous disruptions characterised this Session. The symbolism of dignified protest so essential for orderly conduct of parliamentary proceedings was abandoned. This deprived Members of the opportunity to seek accountability of the Executive through questions and discussions on matters of public interest.

The prohibition in the rules about shouting slogans, displaying posters and obstructing proceedings by leaving their assigned places was consistently ignored by all sections of the House. Peace prevailed only when obituaries were read. All sections of the House need to introspect on the distinction between dissent, disruption and agitation.

The House functioned on the first day of the Session and had a useful discussion on demonetization on 16th November and on 24th November which remained inconclusive. The House also passed on 14th December the Right of Persons with Disabilities Bill, 2014.

I thank the Deputy Chairman, the Members of the Panel of Vice-Chairmen and the officers and staff of the Secretariat for their help and cooperation. Before we disperse, may I wish you the season's greetings and a very Happy New Year!

(The National Song, “Vande Mataram”, was played.)

The House adjourned *sine die*.

SHUMSHER K. SHERIFF,
Secretary-General.

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